



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL**

DONALD W. DOWNES  
CHAIRPERSON

**THE ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

**Senate Bill 1075: AAC COMPETITIVE ELECTRIC SUPPLIERS**

**March 2, 2009**

**TESTIMONY OF CHAIRMAN DONALD W. DOWNES**

The Department of Public Utility Control (Department) would like to comment on Senate Bill No. 1075. Senate Bill No. 1075 section 1, would require that both utilities and electric suppliers offering generation services that customers could opt in for or opt out of for six months at a time without incurring any charges for jumping from standard service to different electric suppliers' services. Section 2 of the bill requires the Department to conduct an uncontested proceeding to consider whether municipalities should have the authority to form aggregation compacts to allow them to operate regional energy efficiency programs. Lastly, the 3<sup>rd</sup>, section of the bill amends the requirement of electric suppliers in soliciting customers that their telephone verification procedures also include recording the initial call and making such recordings subject to audits.

While the Department has not received calls indicating that customers are being levied a fee for switching from the electric distributions companies' services to those of an electric supplier, it does not object to further clarifying the expected process. With respect to the second provision of the bill the Department is unclear as to why municipalities would seek its approval to enter into aggregation compacts for the purpose of establishing energy efficiency programs. The Department lacks any statutory authority over these entities and recommends that if it has any role that it not take the form of an adjudicatory proceeding rather that it be in consultation with these providers. Lastly, the Department supports section 3 of the bill and agrees that any steps to make electric choice more fair and transparent for Connecticut ratepayers is an approach worth implementing.

The Department thanks the Committee for this opportunity to testify and is available for questions.